



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

# **SACCO/VANZETTI CASE**

## **PART 1 OF 14**

**FILE NUMBER : 61-126**

SUBJECT Sacco - Vanzetti

FILE NUMBER 61-126

SECTION NUMBER 1

SERIALS X - 200

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61-126-X

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No. 1343

Brussels,  
24th October, 1921.

The Honourable,

The Secretary of State,  
Washington.

Sir,

I have the honour to report that the Communist agitation in Europe which has been aroused by the trial of Sacco and Vanzetti has extended to Belgium, although in comparison with the recent events in Paris it has thus far been relatively unimportant.

Several meetings have been held in various parts of the capital to protest against the alleged unfairness of the trial, one of course to "bourgeois and reactionary persecution." One of these occurred on October 12th, another on

October.....

61-126-X

The Secretary of State

24th October, 1921.

11

October 18th. The police officials have told me that the attendance ranged from about 70 to 250 persons, mostly young men and women, although certain radical school-teachers and other types of agitators were also present. Among the speakers was Jacquemotte, the Belgian Communist leader. The addresses, however, while containing the usual denunciations of capitalism, did not advise the use of violence against the Embassy or the representative of the American Government in Belgium.

Nevertheless, after the meeting on October 18th, about one hundred of the audience, led by Jacquemotte, formed a protest parade. They traversed the city by a circuitous route, closely watched by the police, booing as they passed the Socialist "Maison du Peuple," which the Communists consider a "reactionary" institution, and, contrary to the exhortations of Jacquemotte, decided to demonstrate before the Embassy. Although the procession was broken up several times, about seventy-five persons succeeded in reaching here at 11:00 o'clock by different streets and began shouting imprecations and "Vivent Sacco and Vanzetti!" In a few moments, however, the police had dispersed them.

Between twenty and thirty letters and post-cards have been received at the Embassy, both from individuals and labour organizations. All these protest against the alleged unjust condemnation of the Italians, but none of them threatens violence. They have been shown to the authorities.

For the last week the Embassy has been closely guarded by the police of Brussels, with a gendarmie in re-

-serve.....

The Secretary of State

-5-

24th October, 1921.

11050

serve.

Another protest meeting is announced by the Communists for Wednesday evening, October 26th. I have been informed that any attempt to demonstrate before the Embassy will be strictly forbidden, but should any incidents occur I shall not fail to advise you.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

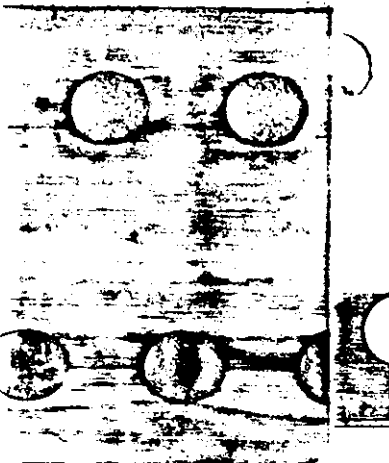
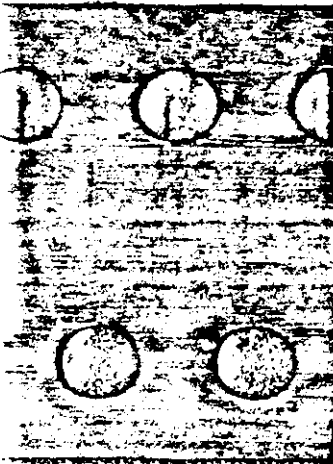
(s) Brand Whitlock

7911  
11061

TRIPPLICATE

London, October 24, 1921.

No. 572.



The Honorable

The Secretary of State,  
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith, for the information of the Department, a copy of a protest which has been received from the Deptford and Greenwich Trades Council against the action of the American Government in sentencing to death the two men Sacco and Vanzetti.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

For the Ambassador:

POST WHEELER

Counselor of Embassy.

Enclosure:  
Protest.

Copy.

11032

BEDFORD AND GREENWICH TRADES COUNCIL

22nd October, 1921.

Dear Sir:

The following resolution was agreed to at the Council Meeting of the above and that it be forwarded to you for you to take the necessary action.

That the Trades Council records its emphatic protest against the action of the American Government in sentencing to death Comrades Sacco and Vanzetti, whom we believe to be entirely innocent of the charge made against them, and we demand their immediate release. Further we instruct our Secretary to forward a copy of this Resolution to the American Ambassador.

Believe me,

Yours sincerely,

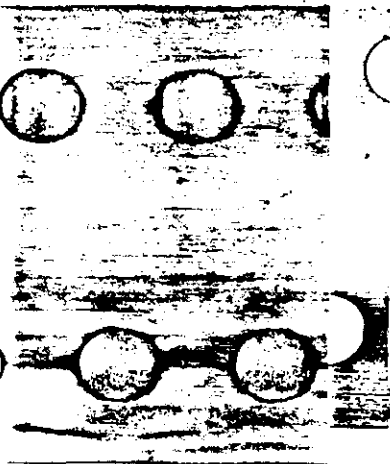
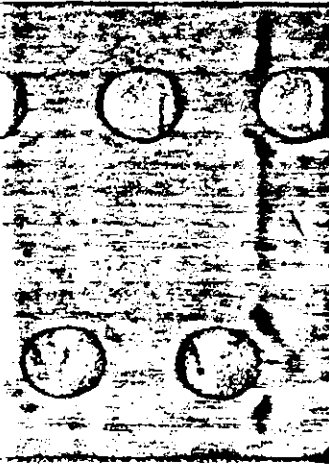
(Signed) E. S. ELLIOTT

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L. M. H.  
61-126  
1109

TRIPPLICATE

London, October 20, 1921.

No. 562.



The Honorable  
The Secretary of State,  
Washington.

Sir:

In further reference to my despatch No. 562 of October 19, 1921, I have the honor to transmit herewith, for such action as may be deemed proper, a copy of a protest which has just been received from the Dock, Wharf, Riverside & General Workers' Union of Great Britain and Ireland, Poplar Branch, against the action of the American Government in sentencing to death the two men Sacco and Vanzetti.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
For the Ambassador:

Enclosure:  
Protest as above.

POST WHARF  
Counselor of Embassy

Memorandum  
JAN 3 1922  
JEH  
61-126-X  
RECORDED



Copy.

11097

DOCK, WHARF, RIVERSIDE & GENERAL WORKERS' UNION  
Of Great Britain and Ireland.

Poplar & 1 Branch  
A 22.

October 19, 1921.

J. E. J. Prior,  
1, Paris Terrace,  
Cough St., Poplar, E.

To

American Ambassador.

Dear Sir,

Poplar No. 1 Branch of the above Union  
records its emphatic protest against the action of  
the American Government in sentencing to death  
Comrades Sacco and Vanzetti, whom we believe to be  
entirely innocent of the charge made against them.

Signed on behalf of the Members,

J. E. J. PRIOR,

Branch Secy.

P.Y.

61-126

110

DUPLICATE

London, October 19, 1921.

No. 593.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a communication received from the Secretary of the London Committee of the Provisional International Council of Trade and Industrial Unions, communicating a Resolution stated to have been passed by a Conference of Delegates from Trade Union Branches in London, protesting against the action of the Government of the United States in sentencing to death the criminals Sacco and Vanzetti.

61-126-  
There/

*[Handwritten signature]*

There is also enclosed a copy of a communication from the Amalgamated Engineering Union, also protesting against the sentence passed upon Messrs. Sacco and Vanzetti.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,  
For the Ambassador,  
ROBT WHIELER

Consul of Embassy

Enclosures:

1. Resolution passed by Prov. Int. Council of Trade & Industrial Unions (Res'd Oct. 18/21.
2. Amalgamated Eng. Union (Lewisham) to Mr. Harvey dated Oct. 18, 1921.

~~CONFIDENTIAL FOR THE SECRETARY AND UNDER SECRETARY~~

11102

Paris, October 12, 1921.

No. 485

The Honorable  
The Secretary of State,  
Washington.

S I R :

With reference to the French Communist agitation on behalf of the Anarchists Sacco and Vanzetti mentioned on pages 1 to 2 of Weekly Report Despatch No. 483 of October 6, 1921, I have the honor to report that a member of the Embassy has been able to secure through the Action Francaise League additional information concerning the activities of French Communists, notably as concerns demonstrations against this Embassy and also against American Consulates in sea-port towns.

The text of the resolution passed first in secret and afterwards communicated to leaders, will be found appended

in French. . .

*Memo JEH*  
JAN 3 1922  
12/9/21  
61-126  
RECORDED  
*gfr*

in French and in translation as enclosures to the present Despatch.

The two revolutionary leaders Lorient and Frossard mentioned prominently in this resolution were among the French revolutionary leaders mentioned as actively dangerous on pages 20 and 21 of this Embassy's Report on "France and the Bolshevik Movement", dated October 30, 1919, sent as enclosure to Despatch No. 532 of October 30, 1919.

The reference made to the Ferrer case in this resolution and also in the last Weekly Report Despatch, bears on the demonstration organized in Paris under the first Briand Cabinet in 1909 to protest against the condemnation in Spain of the Anarchist Ferrer. There was a violent riot near the Spanish Embassy, a police officer being killed. On the Sunday following, a great revolutionary cortege was formed on the outer boulevards and marched into the heart of Paris. Premier Briand was severely reproached with allowing the authorities to show weakness on this occasion from fear of anarchist reprisals.

Additional information, which has remained confidential and unpublished, has been supplied to a member of this Embassy as follows by L'Action Francaise, whose secret service on political developments is very extensive and has frequently been proved accurate as events have unfolded:

The resolution appended as enclosure was prepared in secret by three revolutionaries and was held back until September 28th from the knowledge of all save those who had voted it at the two meetings mentioned.

On the 28th, it was submitted for approval to Lorient, Secretary General of the Communist Party, replacing Frossard, absent. . .

absent on a holiday. Lorient communicated it to the Directing Committee of the Party.

Yadéart, Secretary General of the Union of Syndicates of the Seine, has promised the support of the Union.

At a meeting held September 21st, at the rue Grange-aux-Belles revolutionary headquarters, the Central Committee for Action, which comprises all the central revolutionary organizations of France, was authorized to send a delegation to Lorient, who is both Secretary General of the Communist Party and Secretary General of the Central Committee for Action. Replying to this delegation, Lorient fully approved the decisions reached, and he accepted in principle, (under reservation of the approval of the Directing Committee of the Central Committee for Action) "that a great demonstration might take place Saturday evening November 1st, in front of the American Embassy. The demonstrators must try to tear down the United States flag and replace it by the red flag."

The delegation then went to L'HUMANITE, where it was received September 22nd, by Marcel Cachin and Leaché. The interview was confidential. Cachin approved of the proposed action, and gave orders to his staff to start a press campaign immediately. Victor Marie's article September 23rd was the result.

At LE PEUPLE, the delegation was received by the editor-in-chief, Henri Fabre, and by the political editors, Stéphane Magnier and Fernand Morel. LE PEUPLE will support the movement energetically.

LA VIE OUVRIERE has also promised its support.

LA LIBERTAIRE has undertaken to organize for October 26th a meeting with the help of Birolle, who has just returned from Russia. . .

from Russia, Verdier, of the Union of Syndicates of the Seine, and the Anarchists Pister and Loeuilleux.

A tract was prepared on Monday, September 26th, but its contents have not been revealed.

Loriet has undertaken to make the Communist Party endorse the movement fully ("Marcher à fond.")

The Communist press is continuing its campaign, although it is perhaps significant that LE PEUPLE, the official organ of the General Confederation of Labor, has not as yet discussed the case in any way. On October 6th, L'HUMANITE asked all trade unions, Communist groups, and other radical organizations to forward copies of their orders of the day or protests to this Embassy. Bernard Lecache, writing in L'HUMANITE, October 6th, says, after quoting from a letter stated to have been written by Vansetti; "Two men condemned to death - it is nothing else than a part of ourselves. We shall not be cowardly nor resigned enough to permit them to disappear. We shall tear them away from the executioner." Paul Louis declares that such events as the condemnation of Sacco and Vansetti teach the American proletariat its duty. Victor Merie concludes in L'INTERNATIONALE: "We can, we must save them. There are means of bringing pressure to bear on the American Government. There are means of informing the judges of class and prejudice that indignation is everywhere rising against them. Woe to a country, woe to a working class which would allow, without having attempted the impossible, the accomplishment of this abominable crime."

Bernard Lecache, writing in L'HUMANITE of October 10th, says that the American capitalists will not surrender without. . .

without combating. "With all of our force let us try a common tactic. There is an American Embassy in Paris. We owe it a visit. But let us go in force, well grouped."

Up to October 11th, this Embassy had received some thirty-five letters or telegrams from various organizations throughout France, Committees for Action, Communist groups, Vigilance Committees, Associations of former Combatants, workmen's unions, railroad and other brotherhoods. The Communist Municipal Council of Saint-Ouen, a suburb of Paris, has passed a resolution of protest calling upon the President of the United States "to be so good as to accomplish the act of justice which imposes itself by liberating these two honest citizens." This resolution was forwarded to the Embassy by the mayor.

Most of these resolutions are worded in moderate tones, demanding either liberation or a reprieve allowing time for judicial revision. Some, however, are violent, denouncing America's "capitalistic crime" and comparing American judicial methods to the Inquisition or to the Dreyfus case. There are promises to participate in the proposed demonstration against this Embassy, and also threats "to stone the avenue named in honor of President Wilson."

To explain the extension taken by this movement, it should be said that the French Communist papers are systematically representing to their readers that the alibi furnished by Sacco and Vanzetti was sound, and the two men were proved to be innocent but were deliberately sacrificed because American capitalists needed victims to make an example.

L'HUMANITE. . .



L'HUMANITE has opened a subscription fund for propaganda and activities in favor of the two men.

Just as this despatch was being completed, a memorandum giving further details about the proposed demonstration was communicated to the aforementioned member of my staff by an agent of the Action Francaise League. According to this memorandum, which is appended as enclosures 3 and 4, the date of the demonstration will probably be advanced, and will be announced by special editions of Communist papers immediately before it takes place. It is alleged that an attempt to sack the Embassy offices is planned on this occasion.

The Prefecture of Police has been informed of such threats.

I venture to recall to the attention of the Department the fact that L'ACTION FRANCAISE is a Royalist organization consisting of a League which includes many active members, and publishing a newspaper which bears the same name. This organization is absolutely out of sympathy with Communist action, and has frequently denounced Communist plots to the police with a view to defeating them. The reason given by one of the very highest personalities connected with this League for supplying me unofficially with this information, through a member of my staff personally known to him, is twofold: (1) that the band of German agents working to upset order in France seems probable or even certain in this affair; (2) that the unfortunate reaction of such violence, if permitted, against the American Embassy in Paris would prejudice Franco-American relations at the time of all

others. . .

others when France needs the friendship and support of the United States. The action taken in communicating this information therefore has the appearance of complete disinterestedness on the part of a private organization like the Action Francaise League.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(signed): Myron T. Herriek.

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Enclosures:-

1. - Full text of the resolution proposed by the Communist "Committee for Action".
2. - Translation of Enclosure 1.
3. - Confidential Note in French given to member of Embassy by an agent of the Action Francaise League.
4. - Translation of Enclosure 3.

ENCLOSURE No. 3 - NO DISPATCH No.

Full Text of the Resolution Proposed by the "Committee for Action" of the Communist Group of the XI<sup>th</sup> District of Paris, passed at a Meeting Held September 20th, 1921, at "La Bellevilloise" Hall, and un-

animously adopted September 21st by a Meeting of the Secretaries of the "Committee for Action" of the X<sup>th</sup>, XI<sup>th</sup>, XVIII<sup>th</sup>, XIX<sup>th</sup>, and XX<sup>th</sup> Districts.

"1°/ Le Comité d'action du XI<sup>e</sup> provoquera avec les autres comités d'action locaux, l'organisation d'un comité départemental d'action de la Région Parisienne, composé des secrétaires des Comités d'action de chaque arrondissement, afin de coordonner l'action et de l'intensifier tout particulièrement à Paris.

"2°/ Le Comité d'action du XI<sup>e</sup> considérant que seule l'action directe et nettement révolutionnaire pourra sauver les libertaires italiens Sacco et Vanzetti de la peine de mort à laquelle ils sont condamnés, décide, avec tous les groupements révolutionnaires de la capitale, l'organisation rapide d'une manifestation monstre des travailleurs parisiens devant l'ambassade américaine indépendamment de toute la campagne d'agitation qui s'impose par tracts, affiches et meetings. Ces démonstrations devront également avoir lieu dans tous les ports où il y a des légations et consulats américains, afin d'amener le potentat américain et le président Harding à capituler.

"3°/ L'exécution de cette tâche sera confiée au Comité central d'action auquel une délégation sera envoyée pour exposer ce qu'en . . .

ce qu'on attend de lui.

"4/ Envisage la possibilité de l'arrivée en France et à Paris du général américain Pershing pour donner dans le plus bref délai un commencement d'exécution à ses décisions prises à l'unanimité des organisations révolutionnaires du XX<sup>e</sup>.

"Le Comité d'action du XX<sup>e</sup> est certain que si toutes les organisations font leur devoir en la circonstance, on arrivera avant peu à remuer et à dresser l'opinion publique comme au temps de l'affaire Ferrer contre le crime infâme que prépare la réaction américaine.

"Le temps presse..... Il faut agir rapidement et résolument si nous voulons arriver à temps."

Translation of the Full Text of the Resolution Proposed by  
the "Committee for Action" of the Communist Group of the  
XI<sup>th</sup> District of Paris, passed at a Meeting Held Sep-  
tember 20th, 1931, at "La Bellevilloise" Hall, and  
unanimously adopted September 21st by a Meeting  
of the Secretaries of the "Committee for Ac-  
tion" of the X<sup>th</sup>, XI<sup>th</sup>, XVIII<sup>th</sup>, XIX<sup>th</sup>,  
and XX<sup>th</sup> Districts;

"1./ The Committee for Action of the XI<sup>th</sup> shall,  
together with the other local Committees for Action, promote  
the creation of a Departmental Committee for Action of the  
Paris region, consisting of the secretaries of the Committees  
for Action of each District, in order to coordinate action  
and intensify it, most particularly in Paris.

"2./ The Committee for Action of the XI<sup>th</sup>, consider-  
ing that only direct and clearly revolutionary action can save  
the Italian liberators Sacco and Vanzetti from the death penalty  
to which they have been condemned, decides, together with all  
the revolutionary groups of the capital, to organise promptly  
a monster demonstration of Parisian workmen in front of the  
American Embassy, in addition to the entire campaign of agita-  
tion which is necessary by means of tracts, placards, and meet-  
ings. These demonstrations shall also take place in all ports  
where there are American Legations or Consulates, in order to  
bring the American potentate and President Harding to capi-  
tulation.

"3./ The execution of this task shall be entrusted to  
the Central Committee for Action, to which a delegation shall  
be sent to explain what is expected of it.

"4./ Has. . .

Has under consideration the possible arrival in France and in Paris of the American General Pershing, in order to begin without loss of time to put into execution the decisions unanimously reached by the revolutionary organisations of the XI<sup>th</sup>.

"The Committee for Action of the XI<sup>th</sup> is certain that if all the organisations do their duty in the circumstance, public opinion will before long be stirred and roused up, as at the time of the Ferrer case, against the infamous crime being prepared by the American reaction.

"Time is short, action must be taken promptly and resolutely if we want to arrive in time."

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**Text of a Confidential Note in French Given to a Member of  
the Embassy by an Agent of the Action Francaise  
League.**

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**LA MANIFESTATION.** - Une manifestation aurait lieu devant l'ambassade des Etats-Unis pour protester contre la condamnation de Sacco et Vanzetti. La date de cette manifestation n'est pas encore fixée, mais toutes les organisations se sont accordées pour adopter un samedi soir. Elle aurait lieu une dizaine de jours avant l'exécution (1<sup>er</sup> novembre 1921); tout porte donc à croire que le samedi 22 octobre sera définitivement arrêté.

Cette manifestation ne serait pas annoncée par affiches et plusieurs jours d'avance. Sa date restera secrète (??) jusqu'au jour même et le public n'y sera convoqué que par des éditions spéciales de L'HUMANITE et de L'INTERNATIONALE ainsi que cela se fit pour la manifestation Ferrer devant l'ambassade d'Espagne.

Cachin, Frossard et Daniel Renoult se sont engagés devant les membres du Parti à faire paraître le numéro spécial de L'HUMANITE.

"On" espère pouvoir ne donner la date au moins quelques jours avant la manifestation.

**REUNIONS.** - Une vingtaine de réunions, plus deux grandes réunions rue Grange-aux-Belles et aux Sociétés savantes ont déjà eu lieu.

D'autres réunions de protestation sont organisées. Le Comité recommande de faire suivre les réunions d'une

manifestation. . .

11114

manifestation dans la rue. On espère ainsi arriver à entraîner les troupes suffisamment pour qu'elles marchent à fond "le jour du grand soir".

OTAGES. • Les anarchistes français ont promis de se venger sur des personnalités américaines habitant la France si on exécute Sacco et Vanzetti. L'ambassadeur des Etats-Unis à Paris serait particulièrement visé.

A titre d'avertissement, on essaiera de piller l'Ambassade le soir de la grande manifestation.

DANS LES PORTS FRANCAIS. • Une agitation sera tentée dans tous les ports français.

Les principaux pays qui marchent en faveur de Sacco et Vanzetti sont, d'après mon informateur: l'Allemagne, L'Italie, la France et l'Amérique.

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Translation of a Confidential Note in French given to  
a member of the Embassy by an agent of the Action  
Française League.  
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67-126

**THE DEMONSTRATION.** A demonstration is expected to take place in front of the Embassy of the United States to protest against the condemnation of Sacco and Vanzetti. The date of this demonstration is not yet determined, but all the organizations are agreed to adopt a Saturday evening. It is expected to take place about ten days prior to the execution (November 1, 1921). Therefore there is every reason to believe that Saturday, October 22nd, will be definitely chosen.

This demonstration is not to be announced by placard nor yet several days in advance. Its date is to remain secret (??) until the day itself. The public will be convened by means of special editions of L'HUMANITE and L'INTERNATIONAL as was done for the Ferrer demonstration in front of the Spanish Embassy.

Cachin, Frossard, and Daniel Renault have pledged themselves to the members of the Party to publish the special edition of L'HUMANITE.

"He" hopes to be able to make the date known to the public several days at least before the demonstration.

**MEETINGS.** Some twenty meetings, in addition to two huge meetings in the rue Grange-aux-Belles and at the Halls des Sociétés Savantes, have already taken place.

Other meetings of protest are being organized. The Committee advises that the meetings be followed by demonstrations in the street. It is hoped that this will help to inspire enthusiasm so that the bands will do their best "on the date of the great evening."

**HOSTAGES.** French anarchists have promised to take vengeance.

vengeance on American persons of importance lived  
if Sacco and Vanzetti are executed. There are  
threats against the American ambassador in Paris.

since  
by

11116

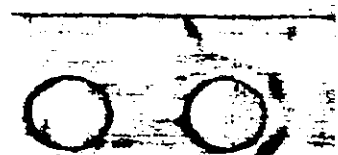
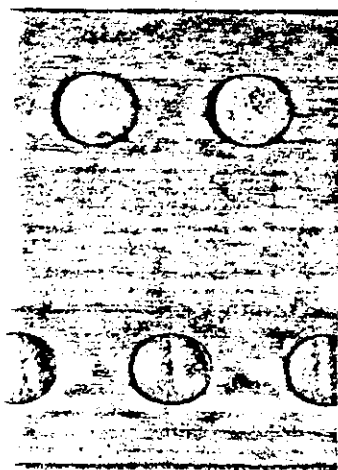
As a warning, an attempt will be made at the  
American Embassy on the night of the big demonstration.

IN FRENCH PORTS. Agitation will be attempted in  
all French ports.

The principal countries stated, according to my  
informant, to be acting in favor of Sacco and Vanzetti are:  
Germany, Italy, France, and America.

11118

Enclosure: Article from the Foreword, with translation.



810.

No. 557

11117

AMERICAN CONSULATE

Basel, Switzerland,

September 23, 1921.

SUBJECT: Transmitting article from Basler Vorwaerts,  
protesting against the execution of two  
criminals, Sacki and Vansetti.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith an article  
with translation which appeared in the Basler Vorwaerts,  
the communistic organ, on September 23, 1921, signed by  
the anarchist, communist, and social organizations, pro-  
testing against the execution of two criminals, Sacki  
and Vansetti.

Since the publication of this article the police  
authorities have kept two police detectives in the  
neighborhood of the American Consulate to prevent any  
demonstration, and have notified me that they are pre-  
pared on short notice to rush police to the consulate.  
However I do not expect any trouble and have not re-  
quested any protection. The police suggested that  
they take special precautions today owing to a labor  
demonstration to take place this afternoon as a pro-  
test against wage reductions by the dye manufacturers.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Philip Holland.  
American Consul.

# Ein neues Justizverbrechen

betreffe die amerikanische Regierung vor, ein Justizverbrechen, das bei allen Rechtsgutenden Empörung auslösen und zu einer allgemeinen Protestaktion führen muß, wenn seine Verhinderung gelingen soll. Versagt dieser Protest, dann werden am 1. November zwei Menschen, denen nichts nachgewiesen werden kann und die sich weiter nicht aufschanden lassen können, als Anarchisten zu sein, durch den elektrischen Stuhl zum Tode gebracht. Zwei Menschen sollen hingerichtet werden, weil sie die Befestigung der staatlich-kapitalistischen Raub- und Mordorganisation erstreben und die Errichtung eines Gesellschaftssystems, das nicht auf Raub und Mord aufgebaut ist, eines Gesellschaftsideals, das jedem Individuum Freiheit, Wohlstand und Brot sichert.

Es ist so eine allbekannte Tatsache: handelt es sich darum, unliebame Menschen — und zu diesen gehören in erster Linie die Anarchisten — von Gesicht wegen unmöglich zu machen, dann stehen dem Staate genügend Mittel zur Verfügung, um seine Absichten in die Tat umsetzen zu können. Und so auch in diesem Falle.

Die Kameraden Sacki und Bonzetti sind angeklagt und für schuldig befunden worden, am 15. April 1920 eine Bombe in South-Bramtree ermordet zu haben. Um die Unschuld dieser beiden Kameraden nachzuweisen, haben sich 106 Zeugen gemeldet, unter diesen auch der italienische Gesandte, der behaupten konnte, daß am 15. April — dem Tage der Ermordung des Botschafters — Sacki auf seinem Bureau sich befand; zwecks Erlangung eines Reisepasses für sich und seine Familie nach Italien. Doch die zwölf Geschworenen verlangten den Tod dieser beiden Kameraden, weil die Magnaten ihn forderten. Man versichtete auf 106 Zeugen. Dafür aber ließ der Richter — der die Prozedur Spieß und Raderaden — die beiden Kameraden eine Prostituierte trug als Zeu-

gen aus, und weil der Richter anwalt verlangte, wurde ihnen ein Urteil über sehr man das Bedürfnis der beiden Kameraden zu befriedigen, sehr hoch ausgesetzt, daß diese Geschworenen 25.000 Dollars (über 125.000 Fr.) erhalten hätten für ihren Schicksalspruch.

Es gibt nur noch eine Möglichkeit, die Kameraden Sacki und Bonzetti vor dem Tode zu retten: eine energische, geschlossene Aktion der internationalen Arbeiterklasse. — Schon einmal konnte durch eine solche Aktion die amerikanische Regierung gezwungen werden, die Kameraden Joe Ettos, Ariur, M. Giornetti freizugeben, nachdem man diese für immer mundtot machen wollte. Diese Protestaktion, verbunden mit der Boykottierung der amerikanischen Produkte, muß auch heute sich wiederholen.

Ein Protest und eine Aufforderung an alle recht denkenden Menschen.

Die unterzeichneten Organisationen protestieren aufs energischste gegen dieses neue Justizverbrechen der amerikanischen Regierung. Sie fordern alle recht denkenden Menschen auf, diesen Aufruf der amerikanischen Kameraden zu unterstützen, diese Tatsachen zu verbreiten, diese neueste weiße Schmach in die weiteste Öffentlichkeit zu tragen, damit ein einziger vieltausendstimmiger Entschlußschrei gegen diese Schandtat die Rinde durchdringt. Wer noch einen Funken Menschlichkeitsgefühl in sich hat, soll seine ganze Energie für die Befreiung der beiden Kameraden aufwenden. Wir fordern alle auf, mit uns beim amerikanischen Konsul in London der amerikanischen Regierung gegen dieses Justizverbrechen zu protestieren. Vom amerikanischen Konsul aber verlangen wir, daß er bei seiner Regierung ganz energische Schritte zur Freilassung der verurteilten Kameraden unternehme. Tut er dies nicht, wird er sich verantworten müssen.

Unterzeichnet:

- Anarchistische Föderation, Biel.
- Union anarchiste Vienna.
- Proletarunion Biel.
- Kommunistische Partei, Genéve.
- Sozialdemokratische Partei, Biel.
- Sozialistischer Abstinenzklub Biel.

Translation from an article in the "Basler Nachrichten",  
No. 223 of September 23, 1921, entitled, SIA ANTON  
JUSTIZVERURTEILUNG.

### A NEW JUDICIAL CRIME.

A new judicial crime is being perpetrated by the American Government, which is revolting to all those people believing in justice; and there will be a tremendous protest, if these two men are executed. Should this protest have no effect it is certain that these two men will be executed in the electric chair. They can prove nothing against these two men except that they are anarchists. Two men are being executed because they are removing the state's, - capitalist, robbery and murder-organization and in its place are introducing a social system which is not built upon the principal of robbery and murder, and promises freedom, wealth and bread to all.

It is a fact that there are people who are not liked by the government and are therefore against the law, and these are for example, the anarchists, and for executing these people the Government has ample means.

The comrades Sachi and Vanzetti have been found guilty of killing a paymaster on April 15, 1920 in South-Braintree. In order to prove the innocence of both comrades 105 witnesses were summoned; among these was also the Italian Ambassador who swore that Sachi was in his office

on the ... for the purpose of procuring  
 passports to Italy for him and his family. The  
 twelve jurymen sentenced them to death because the  
 wealthy people sentenced it. The 108 witnesses were  
 not wanted. Instead of these the court ...  
 witnesses. The jurymen were paid the sum of \$10,000  
 (more than 700, 125,000) for their verdict ...  
 the conspirators. There is only one possible  
 saving face and that is, an energetic action of  
 international labor. Through such an action the  
 American Government was compelled once before to  
 spare comrades Joe Hill and Artur M. Garfield.  
 A like action must be taken again, connected with  
 the boycotting of American products.

#### A PROTEST AND DEMAND TO ALL FAIR MINDED PEOPLE

The undersigned organizations protest strongly  
 against this new judicial crime of the American Govern-  
 ment. They invite all fair minded people to support  
 their American comrades and to disseminate this de-  
 mand to all people. The one who is still benevolent  
 helps with all his energy to free these comrades.  
 We urge everybody to protest through the American ...  
 will up that this judicial crime by the American Govern-  
 ment. From the American Council we are asking that he  
 take steps to liberate these people. If he does not  
 he will be responsible.

Signed: Anarchistic Federation, Biol. Ct. Bar  
 Union Anarchiste, Bienne  
 Labor Union, Bienne  
 Communist Party,  
 Social Party  
 Social Anti Alcohol  
 Union, Bienne, Ct. Berne.

(COPY REF/ee)

TRANSLATION

Nice, France,

September 24, 1921.

The Consul of the  
United States of America,  
Nice.

Sir:

We beg to submit to you the following protestation:

The Communist Section (S.F.I.C.) and the Federation of the Young Communist of Nice (F. J. C. N.) submit the appeal to all honest persons, to all men of heart without any distinction of parties in favor of the two "Militants libertaires", SACCO AND VANZETTI, condemned to death in America by an odious verdict of class, and they demand by all possible means the exercise of pressure upon the Public Powers for the intervention and liberation of these two men, who have committed no other crime than to militate for their ideas.

You will accept, Sir, etc., etc., etc.

(Signed) LE SECRETAIRE

ROBERT CHRISTOPHE.



Department of Justice,

Bureau of Investigation.

Boston, Mass.

WJW.  
No. 104/2.

October 25, 1921.

Director,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir,

In reply to its communication of the 24th instant, initialed JEH/LMT, which has just come to hand, directing submission of a detailed summary of all information relative to agitation on behalf of the Italian anarchists Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti, the Bureau is advised that on September 29th, ultimo, the entire file in the case of Aldo Pelicani was transmitted to the Bureau in the care of Agent [REDACTED] and by him delivered to your Mr. Ruch, in whose possession it now is. Aldo Pelicani, as is known by the Bureau, is treasurer of the Sacco-Vanzetti Defense Committee and the voluminous reports forwarded the Bureau related to the activities of that committee. In view of the foregoing it would appear to be necessary for the Bureau to return the file to this office, upon the receipt of which the above requested summary will be prepared.

*Boston  
10/27/21  
WJW*

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DATE 6/17/82 BY SP-8 BJS/HK

Very truly yours,  
*Charles A. Bencroft*  
Charles A. Bencroft,  
Special Agent in Charge.

11000

Department of Justice,  
Bureau of Investigation.

P. O. Box 3185,  
7 Water St., Boston, Mass.

CAB:JMC

January 4, 1922.

61-126-

William J. Burns, Esq.,  
Director, Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Complying with telegraphic instructions  
from the Bureau to advise you daily as to the de-  
velopments in the SACCO and VANZETTI matter, I  
desire to state that no new developments have come  
to my attention during the past twenty-four hours.

Yours very truly,

*Charles A. Bancroft*  
Charles A. Bancroft,  
Special Agent in Charge.

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DATE 6/17/82 BY SP-8 BJS/mc

READ BY W. J. B

61-126-1

RECORDED

*W. J. B*

Translation.

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DATE 6/17/82 BY SP-105/JMK

## THE CRIME DOCUMENTED

If we had faith in the law and believed in justice the verdict rendered against our comrades Nicholas Sacco and Bartholomew Vanzetti by the superior court of Dedham, Mass., would seem impossible to us. But as law has ceased to be the rational ordination of human existence (the ordering of reason for the common good) we have lost all faith in its goodness; and we have no belief whatever in the justice which a class administers in defense of its privileges and dominion in the world to the detriment of the other class. We should be too ingenuous if we took any different position. A palpable fact is the fate which recently befell our companions Sacco and Vanzetti, who, because they are anarchists, failed to register for the army during the war, and bare arms in a state where the so-called Sullivan law does not even exist, this being an act which the very constitution of the republic does not condemn, were sentenced to die in the electric chair.

This is the only, the most specific proof, the most substantial evidence that the ministers of justice, the executioners of the law, were able to find against our worthy comrades. More than 95 persons of both sexes, who represent various nationalities and all ages, declared in favor of the accused men, having affirmed one after the other that the prisoners were not any of the men whom they had seen on April 15 in the town of Braintree shoot at Parmenter and Bernardelli and take possession of the money which they were carrying to the shoe factory in which they were employed. There before the numerous audience which had daily attended the hearings with great interest two experts in arms ammunition testified that none of the bullets extracted from the dead bodies had come from the Browning found in possession of Sacco at the time of his arrest on May 5.

## The most "important" witness.

The district attorney in spite of his effort, and they well tested witnesses for the prosecution, were unable to prove the charges of murder and robbery made against our companions. The whole structure of the charge was based on the declaration of a poor mercenary, Lela Andrews, the Estelle Smith of the Sacco-Vanzetti case, who was in a little trouble with one of her lovers, for which reason she applied to the police for protection. Help me and I will help you. It was then that the police decided to utilize her in the Sacco and Vanzetti case as one of the most "important" witnesses on whose declaration depended the whole success of the farce. And it certainly was important, for she made three different declarations, contradictory to one another and even more. She said at several places that the police wanted her to identify the prisoners as two of the highwaymen whom she had "seen" at Braintree, but she declared she did not know them, and for this purpose she was taken seven times to the jail. From a collection of photographs she selected one, "recognizing" Sacco in it, one of the "highwaymen" whom she had "seen," but at the same time the attorneys for the defense proved that the photograph was taken from the rogues' gallery, being the reproduction of a young man who is now in the state penitentiary of New York, Sing Sing, serving a sentence of 20 years and having already been confined 10 years.

In the face of this irrefutable proof the mercenary, Estelle Smith of Massachusetts, was dumbfounded for a long time.

Being unable to find an answer to the rapid questions, she had the impudence to point out one of the attorneys of the defense as one of the bandits whom she had "seen" and she was as "positive" in her statement in this case as in the case of Sacco.

## "Identification" of Vanzetti.

In the identification of Vanzetti there appeared an employee of the railroad who "asserted" that Vanzetti had traveled in the train on which he was working on the morning of April 15, 1920, and that during this voyage Vanzetti had several times asked for the Braintree station, but he admitted upon severe questioning by the defense that he had not known him by the name of Vanzetti, he being known only by the name of Tony, but that it was he who was the prisoner in the jail. Upon a photograph being presented to him, he "recognized" in it the man to whom he referred, and he affirmed, and here his declaration. At the same moment one of the

called in, ~~and~~ he being the same one appearing in the photograph and being outside in the corridor, and when the witness was confronted by him he looked at the prisoner who was serenely listening to all this falsity and then, looking at Teney No. 2, who was gazing surprised into every corner of the hall of "justice," he said in a low and almost inaudible voice, in answer to the inquiry of the attorney, the opposite of his declaration of five minutes before.

It was the second Teney that had traveled with him the day of the events and not the Teney who was on the bench of the accused. Nevertheless, in view of this "evidence," which proves nothing except what they (and with them we) affirm. (???) The fact of their being the precursors of a more humane and equitable society; the fact that they refused to become cannon fodder and murderers in the name of a tyrannical and homicidal country, caused them to be found guilty by a jury which is the defender of privilege, of that privilege which we wish to destroy with our demolishing propaganda, and an infinite number of others have been as guilty as Sacco and Vanzetti, and we shall be so tomorrow if we appear before a jury, and we are likewise so today. Do not forget it, comrades! As a proof the fact may serve that 97 witnesses of all social grades positively declared: "They are not the men we saw shooting" in the town of Braintree, and a large number of these witnesses had seen Sacco in Boston on the day of the events which occurred at Braintree 25 miles distant. Sacco had been at the consulate to obtain a passport with the intention of going to Europe to visit his aged parents, while Vanzetti was selling fish from door to door at Plymouth to his customers. Minute for minute the two companions gave an account of all their movements during the day of the occurrences, to the ~~entire~~ complete satisfaction of all.

#### The cry of the victims.

From the gallows of Russia of the Csars or of America of the millionaires we have often heard repeated the words which in the silence of the Dedham court resounded with the metallic ring of a bell: "WE ARE INNOCENT." "Don't forget that you are killing two innocent men," said Sacco repeatedly; while his female companion continued embracing him and crying: "You are murdering my companion; kill me also! My children. What will become of my children? And he, in a clear and firm voice, continued protesting: We are innocent, we are innocent.

But historical justice is blind, and still worse, it is as ~~mute~~ deaf as a cold statue cut in marble. Vanzetti remained motionless with his hand raised without saying a word. The scene in the court was touching and sad. The public was not admitted to hear the word on which depended the life or death of the two young laborers in the fullness of life; two dreamers of a future of beauty and love in which all human beings would be free and equal and all men brothers; two idealists whom the lords of wealth have designated with a finger of revenge, selecting them today as candidates for punishment in compensation for their untiring labor in behalf of the oppressed. The words will resound throughout the proletarian world which were uttered in a low, trembling voice by the foreman of the jury: "Guilty; guilty of first degree murder."

#### Will you permit this?

Now on some future day, perhaps next spring, when the verdure of the fields sends us the aroma of its flowers, when the birds are gaily singing their amorous lays, when the sun is caressing the fertile land with its rays, when seeds and plants are germinating in the furrows, when in a word everything tends toward the reproduction of the species, toward life, and toward love, Sacco and Vanzetti will be carried to the death chamber, with head shaven, with a slit in the knee of the left trouser leg and the ~~ankle~~ <sup>elbow</sup> opened at the at the right elbow in order that the pitiless man who makes a profession may place there the electrodes in contact with the muscles. The head will be held down by a metal plate fastened down with a screw, the face being covered with a broad piece of cloth which will serve as a mask at the same time; across the chest will pass a broad sash; the legs as well as the arms are ~~fixed~~ <sup>attached</sup> to the chair, the conductors of death being placed in these straps. And here a mercenary electrician, in exchange for some coins stained with blood, will put his hand on the key which will open the current upon the infamous death chair on which our comrades will breathe the last breath of life. And there, in the presence of a minister of the church who utters some unintelligible phrases of the ritual, as well as a doctor, the head of the prison, and some privileged newspaper man, the nefarious work of the law will be carried out. First one and then the other, with the same serenity

as a barber says to his customer: Next! And justice has been consummated!

Thereupon their bodies, motionless and charred by the electric contact, will be placed on the white tables which are situated in the adjoining room and there the doctor will make his final pronouncement: "They are dead!" Thereupon the jurymen who so iniquitously "judged" our comrades will affix their signature, with their trembling right hand without looking directing at their victims, to a document as evidence that justice has been done.

Then these inevitable and charred bodies will be returned to the wife who is now pining in the agony of grief, and to the children whom a single word of one man left orphans. Oh justice, how much crime in thy name! These blind instruments of the bourgeoisie, these ferocious beasts are not the responsible ones. Oh, no, as said the prosecuting attorney, speaking to the jury. "You, gentlemen of the jury, are not responsible for the verdict of guilty which involves capital punishment; the law protects you."

In order to halt the murderous hand of the law, which is preparing to forcibly wrest the lives of our comrades, there is one single way, the shortest, the surest, the most decisive, the most energetic, namely, the action of the proletariat.

If <sup>we</sup> you can count on you, **LABORERS OF ALL COUNTRIES**, we shall come off victorious from our undertaking; otherwise the bourgeoisie will be the one to celebrate the triumph with the blood and the pains of the victims, and only we shall be ~~unpunished~~ guilty.

While the laborers of all countries are preparing to launch a unanimous protest against this legal assassination, we the committee of defense have appealed to the supreme court as a final legal recourse, from which we have not even any hope.

**LET EACH ONE FULFILL HIS DUTY.**

For the pre-prisoners committee:

**JOSÉ MARINERO**, 32 Battery street, Boston, Mass.

Sacco and Vanzetti - 2

to the late war, firmly believing that the war against Germany was fought for only the benefit and interest of the "masters". Being opposed to war, they refused to become soldiers and went to Mexico in company with several other anarchists residing in Massachusetts, remaining there until after the danger of being drafted or imprisoned for having dodged the Selective Service Act had disappeared.

Both Sacco and Vanzetti also stated in their trial that they organized and attended anarchistic meetings and conferences held in the Italian Independent Naturalization Club, 6 Maverick Square, East Boston, in company with other Italian anarchists answering to the names of Carlo Forte, Vincenzo Celarossi, Oreste Bianchi and one Tarabelli, and that there they held a conference in which it was decided to send Vanzetti to New York in order to obtain direct information on the arrest of Roberto Elia and Andrea Salsedo, detained by officials of the Department of Justice for professing anarchist ideas. While in New York, Vanzetti was in company with Luigi Quintiliani, who is now Secretary of the "Comitato Pro Vittime Politiche", room 405, 7 East 15th St., New York City. He also was in conference with several Italian anarchists from whom he learned the facts concerning the arrest of Elia and Salsedo. He also learned that on account of the "Bestial reaction" in coming back to Massachusetts, he had to advise all other Italian anarchists to conceal all radical literature if desirous of avoiding arrest and deportation. Both Sacco and Vanzetti further testified that they were about to carry out these instructions, that is to remove all their radical literature from their homes, when they were arrested at Brookton,

61-126

NICOLA FERDINANDO SACC0

and

BARTOLOMEO VANZETTI.

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Nicola Ferdinando Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti, two Italians, were tried and convicted in the first degree, for the murder of one Parmenter and one Berardelli, paymaster and private policeman respectively, of the Slater and Morrill Shoe Manufacturing Company, South Braintree, Massachusetts, and for stealing the payroll amounting to \$18,000, on April 15, 1920. The trial opened at the Norfolk County Superior Court, Dedham, Massachusetts, before Judge Thayer, on May 31, 1921 and closed July 14, 1921.

Sacco and Vanzetti are two Italian anarchists who were subscribers to "La Cronaca Sovversiva" at the time that rebellious newspaper was published at Lynn, Mass., by Luigi Galleani, who was deported from this country because of his anarchistic beliefs and teachings. They were also subscribers to "La Jacques", which was clandestinely published at Paterson, N. J., by Ludovico Caminita, and were receiving, also, a considerable amount of radical literature in general and anarchistic in particular published both in this country and in Italy. This was stated by themselves while testifying in their behalf before the court in the aforementioned trial, as they intended to prove that the real cause of their arrest and prosecution was due to the fact that they were two active propagators of anarchistic ideas, thus disproving the fact that they had committed the crime at South Braintree.

At the trial they also testified that they had been opposed

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Sacco and Vanzetti - 3

and charged with the crime committed at South Braintree.

During the trial they used as trial witnesses for the defense, a number of radicals who testified that the defendants were at a place other than the scene of the crime in April 1920. Among these were one Falisini of East Boston, Mass., one Giuseppe Seavitt, of Somerville, Mass., both of whom are on the subscription list of Galleani's "Gronaca Sovversiva, and one J. D. Williams, of Malden, Mass., who was prominent a few years ago in the Socialist and A.W.N. movement in Boston. The Court room was daily attended by Italian and English speaking radicals. Among the principal were Mrs. Ferdinanda W. Reed; Corise Carmen Jack; Elisabeth Glendower Evans, representing the Executive Committee of the New England Civil Libertist Union; Fred H. Biedenkapp and J. P. Williams of the Communist Party; John Nicholas Beffel of the New York Call; Aldino Feliconi, Felice Guadagni and Frank M. Lopez, of the Sacco-Vanzetti Defense Committee, besides a great number of Italian anarchists gathered there from various sections of New England. District Attorneys William F. Lanes, Frederick C. Katmann, George E. Adams, and Harold P. Williams appeared for the State during this trial, while Frederick M. Moore, William J. Callahan, John A. Lyons, Jeremiah Mc Anarney and es-Judge Thomas Mc Anarney appeared for the defense.

#### THE SACCO - VANZETTI DEFENCE COMMITTEE.

The Sacco-Vanzetti Defense Committee, with headquarters at 32-34 Battery Street, Boston, was organized a little after the arrest of the two Italian anarchists. The organizers and leaders are Aldino Feliconi, Felice Guadagni and Frank Lopez, who assisted by a myriad of Italian anarchist agitators, have conducted and are



Sacco and Vanzetti - 4

still conducting a very extensive propaganda all over the United States and abroad, so as to gather funds for the legal defense of Sacco and Vanzetti.

Besides the Boston Central Committee, other subcommittees were organized in several other cities of the country; one at Detroit, Mich., under the leadership of Frank Cernuto; one at Chicago, Ill., headed by Porfire Porfiri, and Enrico Dell'Aqua; one at Beul, Ill., under the leadership of Joe Barra; one at Pittsburgh, headed by Henry E. Travaglini; one at Philadelphia under the leadership of Pasquale Belperio; two at New York City headed by Luigi Quintiliani and J. Baldassi, respectively; and one at Lawrence, Mass., under the leadership of Antonio Pelitella and Ettore Giannini, besides a score of other sub-committees of minor importance.

In the Sacco-Vanzetti campaign, the defence committee introduced as a fact, that the arrest of Sacco and Vanzetti was due to a "frame-up" perpetrated by officials of the Department of Justice, in common with the authorities and manufacturers of the State of Massachusetts. To this effect an extensive propaganda both written and oral has been displayed. A great quantity of literature has been circulated and a considerable number of anarchist leaders and organizers have been holding meetings throughout the country as far as California. Beside other Italian newspapers of radical nature which dwell lengthily on the Sacco-Vanzetti case, are "L'Avanti" (Socialist); "Il Proletario", (Syndical) of Chicago; "Il Martello" and "Guardia Rossa" of New York City; "La Conquista" of Philadelphia; "L'Agitazione", "Liberazione" and "La Notizia" of Boston, Mass., besides all the radical newspapers printed in Italy and Spain.

ALDINO FELICANI  
(mentioned above)

Aldino Felicani, who is Secretary of the Sacco Vanzetti Defence Committee, resides with a common-law wife and one child at 132 Rindge Avenue, Cambridge, Mass. He was born thirty years ago in the province of Bologna, Italy. Up to the age of sixteen, he attended schools in Italy, having at that time attended a normal and a technical school. Shortly after leaving school he became engaged in newspaper work, contributing articles to several papers, notably to "L'Internationale" and to "Rompete", the latter being an anti-militarist organ which he himself conducted in Bologna under the style of "Rompete di Fila".

In March 1914, Felicani left Genoa, Italy for the United States arriving at the port of New York, and shortly after his entrance went to Cleveland, Ohio, where he secured work as a typographer on an Italian weekly paper called "La Voce del Popolo Italiano", 325 Central Avenue. While residing in Cleveland, which he continued to do until August 1915, Felicani also conducted a paper on his own account under the title of "La Giubenta Libertaria", an organ as he termed it, of "propaganda for Socialism", which was printed by him at the same address at which the Italian weekly was printed.

Leaving Cleveland, sometime in August, 1915, Felicani returned to New York City in search of employment, and was successful in securing a position as a typographer at 315 East 116 Street, in a job printing shop. About the same time he commenced printing a paper of his own, under the title of "La Questione Sociale", which was printed at the same shop, 315 East 116th St., and in which he had the collaboration of the

Sacco and Vanzetti - 2

anarchist Joe Barra, now living in Peoria, Illinois. "La Question Sociale" was printed at the above address of the Searline Press by Felicani, from August 1915 to August 1917. Felicani's next venture in pursuit of his vocation of typographer was at 74 Washington Street, New York City, in the Omega Press, at which address were printed a number of foreign language journals, such as, "Novi Hrvati", and continued there his avocation as editor and publisher of "La Question Sociale".

In the fall of 1918, Felicani left New York for Boston. Upon arriving there he secured employment with the Italian daily "La Notizia", at 22 Battery Street, as a linotype operator. "La Notizia", before transferring of ownership to the present publishers, was a paper with radical tendencies, although not devoted to any particular cause; in its present status, however, it is functioning merely as a daily news journal. At the present time, in addition to his occupation as a linotype operator for "La Notizia", he is publishing a small sheet called "L'Agitazione" the purpose of which is to create interest in and solicit subscriptions to a fund for the legal assistance for Sacco and Vanzetti.

#### FELICE GUADAGNI.

Guadagni is a subscriber and contributor to the anarchist paper "Grupo Fraternidad". He is editor of the "Gazetta" an Italian weekly published in New York City, also editor of the Italian anarchist paper "Emancipazione".

#### FRANK LOPEZ.

Lopez is a Spanish anarchist awaiting deportation.

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**Sacco and Vanzetti - V**

He has been in charge of the Sacco-Vanzetti propaganda section.

On January 31st, 1921, Lopez, who was a witness in the case of Mrs. Angelina De Falco, alleged illegal solicitation of law business in the Sacco-Vanzetti case, admitted to the court, before Judge Murray, that he, Lopez, did not believe in any form of Government.

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REDACTED

SP-8 BTJ

November 5, 1921.

TRIAL OF SACCO AND VANZETTI

61-126

On April 15, 1920, at about 3 P.M., the paymaster and the guard of the Slater & Merrill Shoe Company, South Braintree, Massachusetts, were killed and a payroll of \$15,000 was stolen by bandits, who escaped in an automobile. As a result of the investigation by the Massachusetts State authorities, Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti were taken into custody and charged with murder in the first degree.

The trial of the two defendants was to be held during the month of December, 1920, but at the request of the attorneys for the defense it was postponed in order to await the arrival of documents from Italy and which were to be used in the defense. A further postponement from March, 1921, was had and the case was not called for trial until June 1, 1921, when the cause was heard in the Superior Court of Norfolk County at Dedham, Massachusetts. At that time the entire jury panel of several hundred men was exhausted and deputy sheriffs were sent throughout the country to take men from the street corners and meeting halls for the purpose of securing the necessary complement of twelve men. The trial continued then until July 14, 1921. It was one of the longest murder trials in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and it is estimated cost the state about \$20,000. On July 14, 1921, the two defendants were found guilty of murder in the first degree, which carries with it the death penalty in Massachusetts.

At the opening of the trial, Judge Webster Thayer informed both counsel for the state and for the defense that no reference during the trial was to be made to the fact that Vanzetti had been previously found guilty of attempting highway robbery and was serving a sentence at the State Prison, nor was any reference to be made to the radical, political or economic opinions of the two defendants. This was agreed upon and no reference was made to these

features of the case by the state. However, Attorney Fred H. Moore for the defense, despite this agreement, saw fit to introduce the radical opinions of Sacco and Vanzetti, their activities among the Italian anarchists, their refusal to register under the Selective Service Act, their flight to Mexico and their activities on behalf of Elia and Galvoda subsequent to their return to the United States.

When Sacco and Vanzetti took the stand on their own behalf they were also permitted by their counsel to deliver lengthy speeches concerning their radical beliefs and activities. Attorney Moore later claimed this was absolutely necessary in order to show their movements during the period in which the crime was committed. However, it should be borne in mind that the state never, at any time, took advantage of the radical beliefs or activities of the defendants and it is questioned whether or not the introduction of the same into the case by their counsel, Mr. Moore, was not for the purpose of propaganda.

Over or upwards of 100 witnesses were called to testify in this trial. The defense, in addition to offering as witnesses persons who were in the vicinity of the crime, also offered a number of alibi witnesses, who were practically all persons well known in the radical movement in the United States. Among others were the following:

Prof. Felice Quadagni, an Italian Anarcho-Communist of Boston and editor of "Emancipazione".

Frank E. Lopez, a Spanish anarchist awaiting deportation and a member of the Sacco-Vanzetti Defense Committee.

Prof. Antonio Dentamaro, an Italian connected with "La Notizia" of Boston.

Rocco D'Alessandro, an Italian anarchist of Brockton, Mass.

John D. Williams, a prominent I.W.O. and Socialist speaker of Malden, Mass.

Alberto Boacco, a writer for the Italian newspaper "La Notizia", of Boston.

Walter Melles, a radical attorney of New York City.

Luigi Quintiliano, secretary of the Italian Defense Committee, of New York City.

Luigi Falchini, an Italian anarchist of Somerville, Mass.

Mrs. Vincenzo Brini, wife of an Italian anarchist of Plymouth.

G. Scavitte, an Italian anarchist of Somerville, Mass.

(FOO)

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No. 8

Berne, November 1, 1921

61-126

The Honorable  
The Secretary of State,  
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to the Legation's despatch No. 392 of October 18, 1921, concerning demonstrations by communist organizations in Switzerland as a protest against the condemnation of Sacco and Vanzetti, two professional anarchists who were tried and found guilty of murder in the United States, and to enclose herewith a list of names of persons and organizations who have sent letters of protest to the Legation. The great majority of the letters received are simple protests demanding a new trial for Sacco and Vanzetti.

Gene

61-126-1

61-126-1

E. Kofmehl, Solothurn.	Alois Thumann, Solothurn.
Emil Kehrli, Solothurn.	Alfred Aebischer, Solothurn.
Ernst Rasine, "	W. Luthy, "
G. Braunschweig, "	G. Mueller, "
E. Rethen, "	Ernst Yerdi, "
A/ Heri, "	Alfr. Lehmann, "
Paul Kehrli, "	Hermann Imhof, Zurich.
Alfons Ditzler, Zurich.	Fritz Kurfleh, "
G. Haegeli, "	J. Veigt, "
H. Rutenberger, "	Alex. Berlinger, "
H. Baumgartner, "	Viktor Bernen, "
Jos. Ritt, "	Fritz Kemmen, "
Karl Lehmann, "	Emil Rester, "
Emil Brunner, "	Hugo Meier, "
A. Witzstein, "	August Lansl, "
Joh. Dietiker, "	Ernst Hürstmann, "
Ernst Schlenker, "	Gius Caldera, "
Luigi Hebenate, "	Paul Schirn, "
Ferd. Steiger, "	August Meier, "
Gottf. Schlappi, "	W. Afflerbach, "
Ernst Boesch, "	Adrian Ensler, "
L Stadelmann, "	Frans Pfyl, "
Paul Antonio, "	Stellio Vorrrelli, "
E. Lindenmaier, "	H. Leland, "
Kon. Prebst, "	August Bargin, "
Jean Tegni, "	W. Rees, "
Ferrini, "	Guerra, "
August Lansl, "	Giulio Belli, "
Karl Bessert, "	Albert Wais, "
Martin Wais, "	Erwin Scheepflin, "
Herm. Gerber, "	Albert Schlup, "
Franz Soldati, "	Viktorie Bega, "



Some of the letters are based on a false statement of Judge Wager's charge to the jury. In Geneva, for instance, posters were exhibited which, in part, stated: "In effect, the President of the Tribunal, Judge Wager, declared that 'these men, although not having materially committed the crime which is attributed to them, are morally guilty, because they are the enemies of the institutions in force'".

Acknowledgments have been sent to practically all the writers of the protests received, merely stating that the contents of the communications had been noted. A number of the writers requested that their protests be brought to the attention of the United States Government.

While several meetings have been held in Bern and in other cities of Switzerland, no actual disturbance of any kind has occurred. A demonstration on a small scale took place before the American Consulate in Basel, but the small crowd dispersed without any resulting harm. The Consulate-General in Zurich has received several threatening letters, but no manifestations have taken place. The Legation continues to keep in touch with the various consulates in Switzerland.

I am informed that the police authorities in various cities of Switzerland have taken precautionary measures and are on the look-out for any possible demonstration.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,  
(SD) JOSEPH C. GRUN

Enc:  
1 list.

American Minister.

**List of persons and organisations who have sent in protests  
against the condemnation of Cesare A. Vassetti.**

Partito Socialista Svizzera, Lugano.

Italianische Arbeiterorganisationen, Zurich.

Colonia Italiana Arben, Birschach, St. Margrethen.

Clarte, (Basel, Lausanne, Geneve, Chaux-de-Fonds.)

Schweizerischer Metall- und Ehrenarbeiter-Verband, Basel.

Charles Stauffer, Libve Pansee, Neuchatel.

Kear. Schmidt, Bern-Bumpliz.

Die Komm. Parteien, Horgen.

Die Italienische Politische Parteien, Horgen.

Jugendorganisationen, Horgen.

Albert Martin, Basel. Fritz Gaumann, Belp. Dem. Kamer, Geneve.

Alfred Fuhrmann, Krauchthal, Bern. M. Badertscher, Basel.

Jos. Majer, Basel. Charles Bauer, Basel. Fritz Meier, Basel.

Marta Meier, Basel. Frieda Meier, Basel. Frau Thut, Basel.

Frau Guntert, Basel. Jos. Guntert, Basel. C. Burer, Basel.

Th. Dunkel-Blumer, Basel. Sophie Steiner, Karl Steiner, Fritz

Steiner, Ida Steiner, Martha Strub. W. Rhomburg, Ernst Wilti,

H. Gumpert, Ottenstein. Ad. Maurer, Hans Kefurche.

E. Boppflinger, Basel. Emil Rubi, Basel. Achilles Meury, Basel.

B. & L. Wegmann-Gots, Basel. B. Henderson. P. Thalmann.

A. Tollenbart. E. Wyss & Frau Wyss, Rattenen. Lydie Dubi, Biel.

Ern. Jeray, President de l'Union ouvriere de Geneve, Geneve.

Schweizerischer Textil-Arbeiter-Verband, Zurich.

Kommunistischer Jugendverband der Schweiz, Leysin.

Jos. Lucas, Zurich. Karl Isenmann-Lids, Basel. Mrs. Eugenie

Isenmann-Lids, Basel. Otto Volkart, Wildiswil bei Interlaken.

Le Groupe Socialiste de la Ville de Geneve, Geneve.

Karl Boser, Basel. E. Maag, Zurich. Ida Butler, Zurich.

Lina Strabel, Zurich. Emil Moser, Zurich. Giacomo Welf, Zur

Otto Schudel, Basel. H. Schieferli, Biel. A. De Miere, Geneve

Ernst Helfenfinger, Zurich.	Alois Sidler, Zurich.
Fidel Sidler,	Oskar Koenigler,
Richard Huns,	H. Richterich,
Pagnamenta,	Ernst Dietrich,
O. Barberij,	Frau Dietrich,
L. Barberij,	V. Nembelli,
Carlo Gebbi,	Adolf Hug,
Ernst Ackermann,	Fritz Klatzer,
H. Messerschmidt,	Emil Erb,
Gottfried Gysi,	A. Degenhardt,
H. Ricker,	O. Meser,
Karl Stoecklin,	Valentin Delect,
Rob. Ulli,	B. Orivelo,
Fraulein Flubacher	Frau Lang,
Frau Hauselmann,	Eugen Marti,
Elis Interbitse,	M. Schmidt,
E. Tellenbach,	P. Fleischli,
F. Vincens,	J. Tschudin,
G. Saglin,	Paul Tschudin,
H. Burgister,	W. Peschke,
Schalaschter,	G.H. Buelli,
A. De Capitaria,	M. Giere,
E. Hauser,	Walter Frey,
J. Widmer,	G. Frey,
Jakob Funs,	K. Katrenmaier,
August Roth,	Emil Schaub,
<u>E. Aeschlimann,</u> ✓	K. Raener,
H. Zimmermann,	A. Wirs,
Oskar Siegrist,	August Schmidt,
Frau A. Fedran,	Alb. Meser,
Willy Handschin,	Oscar Gyger,
Paul Spruengli,	

Secretary of State,  
White House  
Washington.

National League Proletarian war cripples asks  
immediate release of Sacco, Vanzetti, their innocent  
fellow country men sentenced to death by American  
courts.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE, NAPOLEON III.

C O P Y

(Translation-CTE)

Union des Syndicats  
de la  
Province de Liege.

To the Ambassador of the United States,  
Tue Forgeur, Liege.

Following the protest meeting organized by the Committee of Action in favor of Sacco and Vanzetti, Thursday the 27th of October at the Union Headquarters, 29, rue de la Loi. After having heard the statement of the facts and the vibrating appeals of the orators who followed each other at the speaker's stands. The assembly raises a vehement protest against the infamous verdict condemning two innocent men to death. It expresses its indignation and is united in highly disapproving this odious murder.

Hopes that the Great American nation will refuse to dishonor itself by executing a wicked and unjustifiable sentence. Appeals to all good men to protest against these crimes instigated by Capitalistic reactionaries and decides to send this order of the day to the American Embassy.

The Office:

Signed) President  
Ledoux Henri

Watriquant  
Man of letters

Demoulin

L.pomme  
of the P.C.B.

Jules Ledoux.

ENCLOSURE NO. 1

HAVANA CUBA

DESPATCH NO. 1093

November 4, 1921.

## TRANSLATION.

Mr. Crowder:

If Sacco and Vanzetti are killed you will pay us with your life.

There are anarchists and dynamite in Cuba and even though you pay no attention to the last from Caliano, that was only a trial.

If they are executed, you will fall sooner or later. Who laughs last laughs best.

ANARCHIST GROUP

Elimination.

St. Gall, September 28, 1921.

To the American Consulate to be forwarded to the American Government.

The undersigned parties raise protest against the arbitrariness of American justice, which is about to commit a new crime, a "Justice murder", on two comrades who are completely innocent - Sachi and Vanzetti - whose only crime is to be anarchists.

Every human whom the bestiality of the war has not made a weak-minded sacrifice and tool of the capitalistic classes, who still possess a little human conscience, is deeply indignant over this disgraceful, defiant crime of justice of the American Government, against all reason, righteousness and morality.

We demand of you, as representative of this Government, that you take immediate steps for the acquittal of these condemned comrades - by a paid jury.

We hope that you will forward this letter of protest without delay in order that this intended calamitous act may be avoided.

With energetic protest:

Kant. Geschäftsleitung For the Communist Party St. Gall.

der sozialistischen Jugend - (signed) Gustav Ruegg, Cantonal  
organisation President.

St. Gallen & Thurgau Per il "gruppo Libertario"  
(signed) Fritz Bachtiger (signed) E. Delle Rose

Kom. Jugend Per il Sindacato Muratori & Manuali  
St. Gallen Sezione italiana  
(signed) E. Ruttimann. S. Gallo

(signed) Domenico Manfroi

Arbeiter-Union

St. Gallen

A. Haldi.

(signed)

11083

TRANSLATION.

Resistance League of the Clothmakers of Prato -  
(Section of the Chamber of Labor and of the National Federation  
Prato - Toscana.

October 7, 1921.

The Consulate of the American Republic,  
Florence.

I beg to transmit to you the following resolution voted  
unanimously at a powerful general meeting.

The clothmakers of Prato and Val Bisenzio gathered in a  
large meeting in the Rossi Theatre on October 6, 1921:

Heard the infamous condemnation inflicted by the Court  
at Dedham upon the two subversive organizers Sacco and Vanzetti.

Established that if the laborers of the civil world do  
not rise to make their protest against this infamous condemna-  
tion heard beyond the ocean these two invincible champions -  
vainly slandered before honest people - will perish in the  
electric chair.

We pray that the powerful voice of the people will serve  
to annul this iniquitous judgment;

Warning that if the generous lives of Sacco and Vanzetti  
should serve to increase the sad martyrdom of the proletariat -  
victims of liberty-killing capitalism - this horrible crime  
will inevitably fall on the heads of those in power who have  
willed and ordered so much cruelty.

(sd.) The Laborers of Prato  
by F. Ciuri - fia Secretary.



11084

No. 71.

AMERICAN CONSULATE.

Berne, Switzerland, October 18, 1

Subject: Protests Against the Execution of two Criminals,  
Sacchi and Vanzetti.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,  
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to despatch No. 587, dated September 23, 1921, sent the Department by the Consulate at Basel, Switzerland.

Since the receipt of a copy of this despatch from the Consulate at Basel, this Consulate has received from anonymous sources copies of newspapers containing information similar to that transmitted to the Department by the Basel Consulate.

In addition, a letter dated October 8, 1921, written by Mrs. Bertha Hammi, Zihlstrasse No. 6, Widen, Switzerland, has been addressed to me, enclosing a newspaper clipping on the same subject. A free translation of this letter follows:

"Since we consider it not only our right but our duty to prevent by all means a crime planned as per the enclosed article, we urgently request you to undertake the necessary steps with your Government for the release of these two who are innocently condemned to death.

Trusting that the desire and the request of all fair-minded people will be complied with, I sign in the name of many,

Biel, Widen, October 8, 1921.

(signed) Frau Bertha Hammi,  
Zihlstrasse No. 6, Widen."

The foregoing is transmitted simply for the Department's  
information.

-2-

information. My personal opinion is that the matter is scarcely worth attention.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

THORNWELL HAYNES,

Consul Class Fice.

File No. 810

Translation.

11086

61-126

Zurich, Oct. 31, 1921.

The Hon. Government of the United States,

Washington.

I the undersigned, representative of the labor unions mentioned in the resolution, hereby transmit to you said resolution. It is the result of a big protest meeting of the laborers of Zurich against the conviction of the Italian laborers Sacco and Vanzetti.

These two laborers are said to have been condemned to death on evidence which seeks justice and is unworthy of a free people such as America pretends to be.

We therefore beg you to take notice of this resolution, which will certainly not be the only one, and to prevent this proposed murder of justice from taking place.

Very respectfully,

In the name of the aforesaid organizations;

(Seal) I. PRILIZIONI.

Inclosure: 1 resolution.

A resolution of protest to the U.S. government.

The undersigned organizations of the laborers of Zurich most energetically protest against this fresh violation of justice by the American government. They invite all right-thinking men to second this appeal for help for our American comrades, to propagate these facts, to give the widest publicity to this most recent outrage, in order that one single cry of indignation from many thousand voices may echo throughout the land against this disgraceful deed. He who still has a spark of human feeling in his soul should employ all his energy in behalf of the liberation of his too comrades. We ask all to protest to the American government through the American legation against this violation of justice. We ask the American legation to take energetic steps before its government for the release of ~~these~~ convicted comrades. If it does not do this, it will have to be responsible to the whole world.

Communist party of the city of Zurich.

Italian communist party of Zurich.

Autonomous Massilians section.

Proletariat league.

Translation

Havre, Oct. 10, 1921.

In union there is strength.  
General Labor Confederation.

Syndical Chamber of Port and Similar Laborers of Havre.  
Headquarters: Franklin Club, Cours de la Republique.

The U.S. Consul at Havre.

Sir,

Please communicate the following protest to the government which you honorably represent, with all our respects.

The dock workers and similar laborers of the port of Havre join in laborers' protest of the whole world against the iniquitous and unjust decision pronounced by the juries of a court of the United States against the two men and Vanzetti for a crime which they have not committed.

We can not conceive how two men can be convicted without any evidence to justify their accusation. We become indignant at the thought that Sacco and Vanzetti were condemned rather for the crime of holding an opinion, because they asserted their revolutionary ideas, and because they were very active militiamen in a courageous struggle against social injustice and the machinations of the mercantile class who are responsible for the world's misery.

Our conscience as French laborers revolts at the idea that the government of a great democratic country called free America can allow such a crime to be perpetrated.

We energetically protest to the United States government and demand release of Sacco and Vanzetti, innocent victims of the American capitalist class. The dockers of the port of Havre will use all the means in our power to prevent the execution of two of our fellows whose only wrong was to love truth too much and to have been the apostles of real justice and real liberty.

Done at Havre on Oct. 10, 1921, for and by order.

(Signed) A. SENECAU, assistant secretary of the union of port and similar laborers of Havre.

No. 102.

AMERICAN CONSULAR SERVICE

Brest, France, October 22, 1921.

11093

Subject: Demonstration Before the American Consulate  
at Brest.

61-126

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to confirm my cablegram of October 20, 1921, relative to the demonstration made before this Consulate on the night of October 19, 1921, by local extremists.

About two weeks ago, local radical organizations began to placard the city with posters protesting against the condemnation to death in Massachusetts, United States of America, of the two bandits, Sacco and Vanzetti. Among the posters was one announcing a protest meeting to be held on the evening of October 19, 1921.

The meeting was held as announced. In addition to two local speakers, Suzanne Gall and Jean Vibert, French citizens, the meeting was addressed by one Fister, a French Anarchist, who was brought from Paris for the occasion. All reports of the meeting indicate that Fister, even more than the other two speakers, also radicals, was especially active in arousing animosity against the United States Government and American institutions.

After the meeting, about a thousand radicals paraded the streets to the public square about a block from the Consulate. There the mob was further addressed by Fister who told them that there was a representative of the American government nearby and advised them to proceed to the Consulate and make

61-126

RECORDED

OK

a demonstration to show their displeasure at the action taken against their comrades and brother revolutionaries, Sacco and Vanzetti.

Thereupon, at about ten-thirty P. M. the mob consisting of about a thousand persons massed before the Consulate, sang revolutionary songs, shouted the names of Sacco and Vanzetti, heckled, and made various remarks that were indistinguishable in the tumult. During this time, some members of the crowd attacked the heavy street doors leading into the apartment and the Consulate. The only damage done was the breakage of all glass in the doors.

This demonstration lasted about fifteen or twenty minutes, after which the mob moved on and shortly afterward disbanded.

There was no police interference against the crowd and I have been unable to learn that there were any present. Whether they were absent through ignorance of the occurrence or through intention, I am unable to state. The entire Boston municipal administration, including the Mayor, are extreme radicals and are the leaders in radical action here. The police are few and inefficient, and are restricted, probably by their own wishes, and certainly by the municipality in such action against radical demonstrations as they might possibly be capable of undertaking. However, the Mayor assured me that the police were taken unaware by the demonstration before the Consulate and I have no proof to the contrary.

Although the Consulate shield is immediately over the door attacked by the persons in the mob and although the windows of the Consulate and my residence are looking out upon the street and flight above the ground floor, there was apparently no effort made by anyone in the crowd to damage either.

My wife and I spent the evening away from home, returning about 11:15 P. M., and, since my residence entrance and the Consulate entrance from the street are separate, we were unaware of the incident until the following morning. I, as well as the greater part of the inhabitants of the town, no doubt, heard the meeting, yelling and singing, etc., on the part of the mob, but such occurrences are so common in this badly policed and governed city that no attention is generally paid to them.

The day following the incident, the Mayor of Brest called on me and apologized in behalf of the municipality and assured me that provisions would be made to prevent the repetition of such an occurrence. I expressed the hope that my family and the Consulate would be protected from such annoyances in the future. The Sous-Prefet, local representative of the central government, called upon me to express regrets and to inform me that he had caused an investigation to be undertaken by the local federal attorney. A similar call was made by the Prefet Maritime, Commander of the French naval district.

A very large part of the local population comprising the laboring classes and their leaders, principally, undoubtedly sympathize with the action of the demonstrators, but without question, the incident is much deplored and regretted by all others who form the better element of the population.

A report concerning the incident was made to the Ambassador on October 20, 1921, and a copy of it was sent to the Consul General at Paris at the same time.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES H. PURBUS

American Consul.

800

Copy to the American Consul General, Paris.

Copy.

11100

PROVISIONAL  
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL UNIONS  
(British Bureau)

3 Wellington St.,  
Strand,  
London, W.C.2.

To the  
American Embassy,  
London.

Dear Sir:

I am directed to send to you a copy of the resolution unanimously passed at a conference representative of 650 delegates from 330 branches of Trade Unions in the London area, and trust that the matter contained therein will receive your immediate attention.

Resolution

"This conference of Delegates from Trade Union branches in London records its emphatic protest against the action of the American Government in sentencing to death Comrades Sacco and Vanzetti, whom we believe to be entirely innocent of the charge made against them, and we demand their immediate release; further we instruct the Secretary to send a copy of this Resolution to the American Embassy and another to the British Consul in the United States."

Faithfully yours,

H. POLLITT

Secretary, London Committee.



AMERICAN ENGINEERING UNION

Louisiana Branch No. ....

48 Elmer Rd.  
Saford, S.E.S.

18th October, 1921.

His Excellency

The American Ambassador.

Sir:

I am instructed by the members of this Branch to forward to you their emphatic protest against the action of the American Government in sentencing to death Messrs. Sacco and Vanzetti, whom we believe to be entirely innocent of the charge made against them, and we demand their immediate release.

I am

Yours faithfully,

E. W. Lee,

Secretary.

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XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET29

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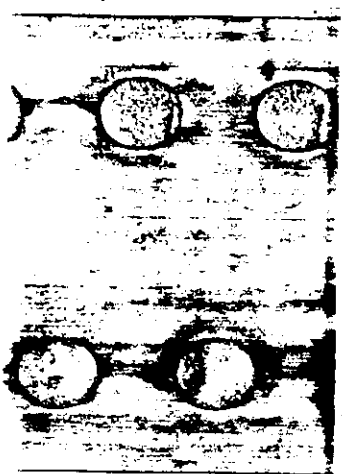
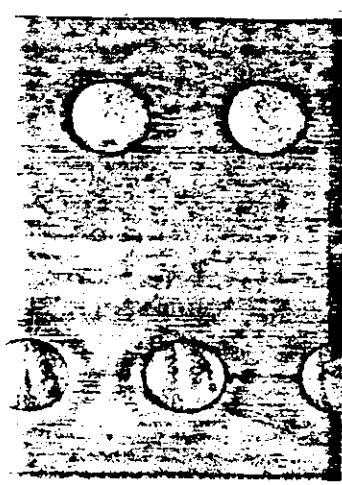
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1112

TRIPLICATE

London, October 26, 1921.

No. 583.



The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence regarding the two men Sacco and Vanzetti, I have the honor to transmit herewith copies of two protests received against the action of the American Government in condemning them to death, from the United Vehicle Workers, and from a British subject, Mr. Frank Heath.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

For the Ambassador:

POET WHEELER

Enclosures:

United Vehicle Workers to Mr. Harvey.  
Mr. Frank L. Heath to Mr. Harvey.

Counselor of Embassy.

JAN 3

61-126-1X

Copy.

11127

UNITED VEHICLE WORKERS

Bexley Heath Branch,  
27 Wellington Road, (Branch Sec. a  
Dartford.

25 - 10 - 1921.

Dear Sir:

At a meeting of the above branch I was directed  
to forward to you the following resolution :

This meeting of the above branch records its  
emphatic protest against the action of the American  
Government in sentencing to death Comrades Sacco and  
Vanzetti, whom we believe to be entirely innocent of  
the charge made against them, and we demand their  
immediate release.

Yours truly,

(Signed) C. Bareham.

Copy.

11128

285 Goldharbour Lane,

Brixton, S.W.

24th October, 1921.

The American Ambassador,

London.

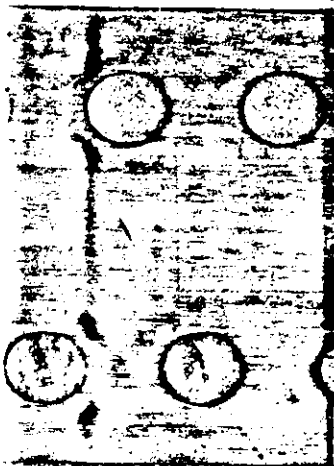
Dear Sir:

I wish to register my most emphatic protest against the conviction of Messrs. Sacco and Vanzetti upon what I consider was the flimsiest of evidence, and I think an irregularly conducted case.

In the interest of justice I consider that the condemned men should be liberated.

A British subject

(Sgd) Frank L. Heath.



11123

Santiago,

October 27, 1921.

No. 18.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

1-2/

For the information of the Department I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy and translation of a letter, dated October 26, 1921, from "La Junta Federal" No. X", the authors of which state that if their communist comrades, Sacco and Vanzetti, are condemned to death the Missions of the United States established abroad will be destroyed by dynamite.

In view of the events which have already occurred in Europe in connection with this affair, and having previously learned of the receipt of a threat of similar

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61-126-11

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12/1/21

11130

tenor by the Embassy at Buenos Aires, I addressed today  
a Note to the Foreign Office requesting that adequate  
police protection be afforded to this Mission.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,  
(Signed) William Miller Cellier.

Enclosures:

1. Letter from "La Junta Federal No. 1" to  
Ambassador Cellier, dated October 26, 1921.
2. Translation of No. 1.

C O P I

Santiago, 25 de Octubre de 1921.

Sr. Embajador de los Estados Unidos,

Presente.

Mi señor mío:

Tenemos el agrado de ponerle en conocimiento, que, su vida corre peligro, si en caso nuestros compañeros comunistas Sacco & Vanzetti sean condenados a muerte.

El día que los comunistas del Mundo sepan que Sacco & Vanzetti han sido fusilados; todos los domicilios de los Embajadores Norteamericanos que existen en los diferentes países, serán volados con una tremenda descarga de dinamita. Tambien haremos manifestaciones de protesta por las calles, y, si sepan que las persecuciones siguen contra los comunistas, tomaremos severas represalias contra todos Uds., tiranos burgueses y contra los capitalistas explotadores, tambien caerán los acaparadores que especulan en la bolsa, por cuya causa tienen a los pueblos en la mas ignominiosa miseria. Son Uds. los que están engendrando la Revolución Social y no nosotros los comunistas; Uds. nos tildan de elementos malos, etc., porque nos llevamos haciendo huelgas, esas huelgas las hacemos contra el capital para que nos pague mas salario, cuando hai hambre, hai desorden, entonces quienes son los elementos malos que hacen el desorden? 'El Capital' y nadie mas. Si hai suficiente salario para vivir, no habra Revolución Social porque todos viviran en paz.

En espera de los acontecimientos,

Quedamos de Ud. Attos. A. L. L.

'La Junta Federal' No 1



SECRET.  
Chile.

Enclosure No. 2

Despatch No. 15.

SUGGESTED TRANSLATION.

11132

Santiago, Chile, October 26, 1934

Ambassador of the United States,

Santiago.

Sir:

I have pleasure in informing you that your life will be in danger if our communist comrades, Sacco and Vanzetti, are condemned to death.

The day the communists of the world learn that Sacco and Vanzetti have been shot, the residences of all American Ambassadors which exist in various countries will be destroyed by a tremendous charge of dynamite. We shall also make demonstration of protest in the streets, and if we learn that the persecutions continue against the communists, we shall take severe reprisals against all of you bourgeois tyrants and exploiting capitalists. The profiteers who speculate in the Stock Exchange and who are the cause of so much misery among the people, shall also fall. You yourselves are the ones who are fomenting the social revolution and not we communists. You stamp us as being a worthless element, etc., because we continue to cause strikes. We cause these strikes against capital in order that we may be paid higher wages. When hunger and disorder prevail, which is the worthless element that causes disorder? "Capital" and no one else. If a sufficient wage were paid to live on, there would be no social revolution because every one would live in peace.

Awaiting developments, we are,

Yours truly,

"La Junta Federal" No. X"

(The Federal Board No. X)

AMERICAN CONSULATE,

11133

Basel, Switzerland, October 28, 1921.

SUBJECT: Demonstration of Communists before the  
American Consulate in Basel.

The Honorable,

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

Referring to my despatch No. 587 of September 23, 1921, transmitting an article from the Basler Vorwaerts, protesting against the execution of the criminals Sachi and Vanzetti, I have the honor to say that between 300 and 400 Communists, led by Adolf Mamie, 28 years of age, of Liesberg in the Canton of Berne and Wilhelm Handschin, 33 years of age, of Basel, gathered in front of the American Consulate a few minutes after 10 o'clock on the morning of October 27th while Communist Mamie climbed to the forks of a tree in the park in front of the Consulate and made a speech of about ten minutes, protesting against the execution of the anarchists, Sachi and Vanzetti, ending his speech with the threat, "If this manifestation does not bring the release of Sachi and Vanzetti we will use force."

From the circumstances I am of the opinion that this demonstration had not been previously planned for any definite time, but that it was suggested by the leaders Mamie and Handschin while they were waiting for the home guards to vacate the gallery seats in the legislative assembly.

67-126/1

11/1

assembly. They had planned to make a demonstration against unemployment while the Assembly was in session, but the home guards had quietly occupied all the seats. The communists marched away and the police expected them to proceed to the Cathedral Place and make their demonstration there. Instead they marched to the American Consulate. Hence the police were thrown off their guard. The police department was telephoned to from the Consulate, and as two policemen approached the Communists quietly marched away, returning to the legislative assembly building.

Except for the speech by Khrushchev and two or three others who held up their hands and made threatening remarks the affair passed off very quietly.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Philip Holland,  
American Consul.

61-126-1X  
11135

TRIPPLICATE

London, October 28, 1921.

No. 597.

*Memo*  
*JEF*  
*12/9/21*  
2861 E NVP

61-126-1X  
RECORDED

The Honorable  
The Secretary of State,  
Washington.

Sir:

Referring to previous despatches in connection with the pending case of the two men Sacco and Vanzetti, I have the honor to transmit herewith, for the information of the Department, copies of protests received from the Paddington Branch of the Communist Party of Great Britain, and the National Amalgamated Society of Operative House and Ship Painter and Decorators - Red International of Labour Union.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
For the Ambassador:

POST WHIPPLE  
Ramsell

Copy.

11136

THE PADDINGTON BRANCH OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF GT. BRITAIN.

I Philip Terrace

London, W.8.

October 26, 1921.

Sir:

I am instructed by the above Branch to forward the following resolution to you:

"This Conference of Delegates from Trade Union Branches in London records its emphatic protest against the action of the American Government in sentencing to death Comrades Sacco and Vanzetti, whom we believe to be entirely innocent of the charge made against them, and we demand their immediate release; further we instruct the Secretary to send a copy of this resolution to the American Embassy and another to the British Consul in the United States!

I am,

Yours for justice,

(Sgd) G. Cotton.

THE NATIONAL AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF  
OPERATIVE HOUSE AND SHIP PAINTERS AND DECORATORS

Barking Branch,  
Secretary's Address:  
11 Devon Road.

25-10-21.

To the American Ambassador  
London

RED INTERNATIONAL OF LABOUR UNIONS

This Conference of Delegates from Trade Union Branches  
in London records its emphatic protest against the  
action of the American Government in sentencing to  
death Comrades Sacco and Vanzetti, whom we believe  
to be entirely innocent of the charge made against  
them, and we demand their immediate release.

Yours truly,  
(Signed) E. Doane.

Panama, Panama,  
Oct. 26, 1921.

No. 3129.

The Honorable,

The Secretary of State,

Washington,

Sir:

I have the honor to send (enclosure No. 1), a translation of a note received this afternoon, signed by Jose A. Brouwer, styling himself Secretary of the Interior for the Communist Group, in which he asks that the protest attached to his note from the Communist Group of Panama to the Supreme Court of the United States be sent as

promptly

*Handwritten:* June 12/21  
61-126-1X  
RECORDED  
*Handwritten:* JH

promptly as possible. A translation of the accompanying protest is attached to a translation of his letter.

It will be seen that the protest grew out of the conviction of Nicolas Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti in Dedham, Massachusetts. The translation in phraseology and punctuation follows the original communications.

I am sending translations to the Governor of the Panama Canal, suggesting, that, if agreeable, investigations be made by the Detective Force of the Canal as to this Communist Group, their organization, aims and attitude.

I am also sending translations to the Panaman Foreign Office informally, asking that in the event an investigation should be made, the Legation would be given the benefit of it.

The matter of the transmission of the protest, is left, of course, to the judgment and desire of the Department.

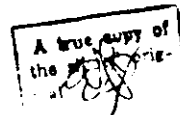
I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

*John J. Emmert*  
AMERICAN MINISTER.

Enclosures:

No. 1. Translation of a note received this afternoon, signed Jose A. Brouwer.





Enclosure No. 1 with despatch No. 3129 of Oct 26, 19

(TRANSLATION.)

Mr. William Jennings Price,  
Minister of the United States  
of North America in the City of Panama,  
Republic of Panama.

We desire you please to send as promptly as possible the protest which the Communist Group of Panama makes to the Supreme Court of Justice to the United States of North America. Said protest is attached to this.

For the Communist Group.

The Secretary of the Interior.

(Signed) Jose A. Browner.

Enclosure No.     with despatch No.     of    

(TRANSLATION.)

Mr. President and other members of the  
Supreme Court of Justice of the United States  
of North America.

According to detailed references, which have  
seen the light in numerous newspapers of that country,  
worthy of being believed an account of their well known  
seriousness, the verdict delivered, in the Superior  
Tribunal of Deham (Massachusetts), against the workers  
Nicolas Sacco and Bartolome Vanzetti is completely un-  
just and arbitrary.

Therefore this Communist Group devoted  
Defender of Justice and Liberty, protests against  
said verdict and asks the Court that it review it and  
leave it without effect, acquitting freely the two  
condemned, without doubt innocent of the crime which  
is imputed to them as the clear declarations of all the  
witnesses show, with the sole exception of one, the  
poor hireling, Lola Andrews, who sold herself to the  
Police and declared that which they commanded to be  
declared.

We trust that the Court will not wish to be  
soiled, confirming so monstrous an injustice as is the  
sentence of the Superior Tribunal of Deham.

May you live many years.

Panama, Oct. 26, 1921.

For the Communist Group,  
Secretary of the Exterior.  
(Signed) T. M. Blasquez de Pedr

MR/LMR

per 24, 1921.

Mr. Charles A. Bancroft,  
P.O. Box 3185,  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In view of the agitation in behalf of Sacco  
and Vanzetti, I desire that you have prepared a complete  
and detailed summary of all information which you have  
received since this case first came into public promi-  
nence, and forward the same to me as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,



Director.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 6/7/92 BY SP-9875/mh

61-126-2

25  
BU. INVS.

Clipped from the  
Washington "Star"  
of 11-17-26, and  
forwarded to  
Director by  
J.M. Keith,  
S.A.C.-Wash.  
Field Office.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 6/17/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/nw

## SACCO-VANZETTI INQUIRY IS URGED

President Told Two Italians  
Were Wrongfully Convicted  
of Murder.

By the Associated Press.  
NEW YORK, November 12.—Re-  
quest for Federal investigation of the  
Sacco-Vanzetti case with respect to  
the part the Department of Justice  
played in obtaining conviction of the  
two men was contained in a letter  
forwarded to President Coolidge yes-  
terday by Robert Morse Lovett, an  
editor of the New Republic.

The letter follows:  
"I beg to call your attention to an  
aspect of the Sacco-Vanzetti case  
which should receive the attention of  
the National Government, through its  
Executive, and if necessary by con-  
gressional action."

### Denied New Trial

"The denial of the application for a  
new trial of these two aliens, who in  
a time of war hysteria were convicted  
of murder by methods which at least  
challenge inquiry, has attracted at-  
tention throughout the world.

On many former occasions the  
Federal Government has disclaimed  
responsibility for the protection of  
foreigners in this country, by invoking  
the Constitution, which leaves  
such matters to the States. The  
demonstration of the fact that agents  
of the Department of Justice took part  
in the prosecution of Sacco and Van-  
zetti, if they did not actually insti-  
gate it, is naturally regarded by for-  
eigners as disposing of this claim.

### Department Files Closed

"The refusal of the Department of  
Justice to open its files to the defense  
has confirmed the suspicion that the  
two Italians were victims of a po-  
litical maneuver to cover up the re-  
sponsibility of the department under  
a former Attorney General for the  
death of Salsedo, while illegally de-  
tained by its officials. In these cir-  
cumstances the matter seems one  
which may properly receive consid-  
eration from the National Govern-  
ment, with a view to preserving those  
relations of confidence with other  
peoples which can be damaged by a  
failure on the part of the United  
States to respect the public opinion of  
a large part of the world."

NOT RECORDED

**BUFFALO, N.Y.**  
**EVENING NEWS**  
**SAT - JUNE 12 - 26**  
**LO EVENING NEWS:**

### **DEATH SENTENCE PROTEST MASS MEETING BALKED**

**Sacco and Vanzetti Champions  
Finally Meet in Street**

A so-called mass meeting in Elmwood Music hall, scheduled for Friday night, under the auspices of the International Labor Defense, in protest against conviction and death sentence of Nicola Sacco and Bartholomew Vanzetti, was prevented when the custodian refused entrance. He said the organization had no permit for use of the hall and had not paid any rent for it.

Police from the Pearl street station, on request of the custodian, told those who had gathered for the proposed meeting, they could not assemble in the hall. Herman Benjamin and Franklin P. Brill then led an assemblage of about 100 persons to Main and Genesee street and convened an open-air meeting.

They had no permit for the street session and police told leaders they would have to disperse. Members of the gathering then called Deputy Police Chief Marnon, who gave them verbal permission to hold the street meeting. The speakers were Benjamin and Brill.

Sacco and Vanzetti were found guilty and condemned to death for killing a paymaster in a \$15,000 payroll robbery at South Baintree, Conn., in 1920.

**INDEXED**

61-126

*Free*

**INDEXED**

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 6/17/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mw**

**P. O. BOX 876  
BUFFALO, N. Y.**

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

Dec. 16, 1926

My dear Mr. Attorney General:

I have been besieged with telegrams and letters pertaining to the case of Sacco - Vanzetti of Massachusetts. It is claimed two former federal agents of the Department of Justice whose testimony was introduced at the last hearing of this case before Judge Thayer was not taken into consideration, and these people are now asking the Department of Justice be investigated.

I would appreciate if you would advise me relative to this matter in order that I may answer these constituents.

Respectfully,

A. J. SABATH

Hon. John G. Sargent  
Attorney General  
Washington, D. C.

*File  
61-126*